

Appl. No. 09/893,960
Amdt. Dated June 9, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 30, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P13600-US2
EUS/J/P/05-1155

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached two (2) sheets of drawings include changes to Figs 1 and 2.

Attachment: Submittal of Drawing Replacement Sheets

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1, 7-10, and 12-15, and cancelled claims 4-6. Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 7-20 remain pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Examiner Objections – Drawings

The Examiner objected to Figures 1 and 2 as requiring a Prior Art legend. The Applicants submit herewith "formal" replacement sheets with the appropriate legend. The Examiner's approval of the drawings is respectfully requested.

3.) Examiner Objections - Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 15 and 16 because of an informality in claim 15. The Applicants have amended claim 15 according to the Examiner suggestion. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claim is respectfully requested.

4.) Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claim 12 as being indefinite for lack of antecedent basis for the limitation "third path." The Applicants have amended claim 12 to correct its dependency to claim 7, which provides the proper antecedent basis for that limitation.

5.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 10 and 11 as being unpatentable over Chaudhuri (US 6,411,946) in view of Parsa, *et al.*. In order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 6 and intervening claims 4 and 5. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection is now moot.

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6.) Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 17-20, and the conditional allowance of claims 15 and 16, provided that the §112 rejection of claim 15 is overcome. As noted hereinabove, claim 15 has been amended to correct the noted lack of antecedent basis and, therefore, claims 15 and 16 are also now allowable.

The Examiner also stated that claims 6-9, 13 and 14 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In accordance therewith, the Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 6 and intervening claims 4 and 5. Accordingly claim 1 is now allowable. Furthermore, whereas claims 2-3 and 7-14 are dependent from claim 1, and include the limitations thereof, those claims are also now allowable.

* * *

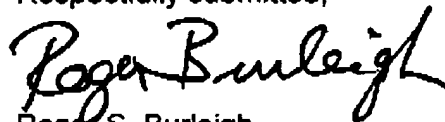
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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